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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/067,198	02/07/2002	Makoto Sanada	0505-0955P	7140

2292 7590 06/14/2005

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EXAMINER

MILLER, CARL STUART

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3747

DATE MAILED: 06/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

5/1

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/067,198	SANADA ET AL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Carl S. Miller	3747	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2005.
 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-23, 25 and 26 is/are rejected.
 7) ☒ Claim(s) 24 is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 20, 23, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onda in view of Haghgooie.

Onda teaches an engine decompression cam used to open exhaust valves via a rocker arm mechanism.

Haghgooie applies as per the last office action.

It would have been obvious to modify Onda by operating the decompression cam as taught by Haghgooie because the Haghgooie method could be practiced by an equivalent exhaust valve drive means and, as noted below, the primary objective of Haghgooie is to wait for a revolution speed to be achieved during the starting process.

Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onda and Haghgooie as applied to claim 20 above, and further in view of Brinn.

Brinn applies as per the last office action and would have been obvious to apply to the system of Onda since its teachings are unrelated to the exhaust valve drive means.

Claim 24 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-19 are allowed.

Applicant's arguments filed January 28, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In particular, the applicant is incorrect when he states that the primary objective of Haghgooe is to replace the mechanical rocker arm drive of the exhaust valve with an electrical drive. Instead, Haghgooe clearly states in his abstract that his main objective is to control the starting process by operating the decompression via the method claimed by applicant.

The use of electrically driven exhaust valves is incidental to the teaching of Haghgooe and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to simply drive the valves mechanically via a rocker arm to achieve the same result.

Applicant will note the claims requiring a specific drive means for the rocker assembly (including a lifter mounted as claimed) have now been allowed. The omission of Claim 14 in the original rejection is therefore moot except for the fact that the examiner has made this rejection non-final due to this fact.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carl Miller whose telephone number is (571) 272-4849. The examiner can normally be reached on MTWTHF.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Yuen, can be reached on (571) 272-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

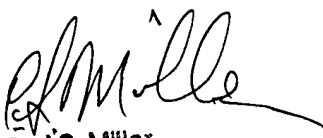
For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Miller/PJ

5/6/05


Carl S. Miller
Primary Examiner